

Appl. No. 10/722,398
Reply to Office Action of June 3, 2005

Attorney Docket: P69334US0

Amendments to the Claims:

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application;

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (previous presented): A variable background for photographic pictures, comprising:

a flexible basic body which supports the object to be photographed and at least one adjustment device for modifying the shape of the basic body;

wherein the flexible basic body has such stiffness that it can take different shapes and keeps a smooth surface when the shape is modified;

wherein the adjustment device comprises openings obtained at least on one side of the flexible basic body by means of punchings and a string or a fiber being guided alternately through said opening; and

wherein at least one end of the string or fiber can be fixed by means of a fixing means.

Claim 2 (previous presented): The variable background according to claim 1, wherein the flexible basic body is formed by a translucent, colorless or colored foil.

Claim 3 (cancelled)

Claim 4 (previous presented): The variable background according to claim 1, wherein the flexible basic body is formed either by a plastic foil, by paper, by a cardboard, or by a flexible metal foil.

Claim 5 (cancelled)

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Claim 6 (previous presented): The variable background according to claim 1, wherein at least on one of the cross sides of the flexible basic body reinforcements are provided; and wherein the reinforcements comprise metal bows or plastic.

Claim 7 (previous presented): The variable background according to claim 1, wherein the flexible basic body can be brought into an angled position by means of the adjustment device, wherein the angle can be chosen freely and can be modified freely, according to the photographic picture or photo technique.

Claim 8 (previous presented): The variable background according to claim 1, wherein at least two or more angulations of the flexible basic body are provided.

Claim 9 (previous presented): The variable background according to claim 1, wherein the basic body has such a stiffness that the basic body forms a tunnel if opposite sides of the basic body are linked and tensioned by means of the adjustment device.

Claim 10 (previous presented): The variable background according to claim 1, wherein the basic body assumes the shape of a tent, a tube, a cone, or a truncated cone by tensioning the string or fiber of the adjustment device through restricting the length of the string or fiber by the fixing means.

Claim 11 (previous presented): The variable background according to claim 1, wherein, on the longitudinal sides of the basic body, fastening devices are provided by means of which the basic body can be fastened to a support.

Claim 12 (previous presented): The variable background according to claim 1, wherein the basic body is fixedly put on a frame.

Claim 13 (previous presented): The variable background according to claim 1, characterised in that the basic body is put on a frame, and that the frame consists of at least three parts, wherein the individual frame parts are connected to each other.

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Claim 14 (previous presented): The variable background according to claim 1, characterised in that the basic body is put on a frame, and the frame consists of at least three parts, wherein the individual frame parts are connected to each other by means of inserted connectors.

Claim 15 (previous presented): The variable background according to claim 1, characterised in that the basic body is put on a frame, and the frame consists of at least three parts, wherein the individual frame parts are connected with each other by means of inserted connectors and the inserted connectors are available in different angles.

Claim 16 (previous presented): The variable background according to claim 1, characterised in that the basic body is put on a frame, and the frame consists of at least three parts, wherein the individual frame parts can be connected to each other by means of joints which can be fixed.

Claim 17 (previous presented): The variable background according to claim 1, wherein the basic body is put on a frame, and wherein the frame is or the frame parts forming the frame are flexible and, after the forming, sufficiently stable in order to keep a chosen form of the frame or the frame parts.

Claim 18 (previous presented): The variable background according to claim 1, wherein basic body is put on a frame, and the frame consists of flexible profiles and the flexible profiles are arranged as adjustment device on the flexible basic body.

Claim 19 (previous presented): The variable background according to claim 1, characterised in that the basic body is put on a frame, and the frame consists of at least three parts, wherein the individual frame parts are connected with each other by means of joints which are provided fixedly with catchings.

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Claim 20 (previous presented): The variable background according to claim 1, wherein at least a part of a region of the flexible basic body for taking the photographic pictures is formed by an opaque slab which is also fastened to a frame.

Claim 21 (currently amended): The variable background according to claim 1, wherein a light source is ~~can be arranged~~ below, before, or behind the variable background.

Claim 22 (previous presented): The variable background according to claim 1, wherein a repro column is provided which is fastened to a frame on which the flexible basic body is put.

Claim 23 (cancelled)

Claim 24 (previous presented): A flexible photograph desk, comprising a flexible basic body according to claim 1, and a frame which supports the flexible basic body and where the basic body can be fastened.

Claim 25 (previous presented): A system for a variable background, comprising at least one flexible basic body according to claim 1, a frame, at least one opaque slab, one or more light sources, one or more repro columns and at least one transport device.

Claim 26 (previously presented): The variable background according to claim 1, wherein the overall shape of the string or fiber is S-like when the string or fiber is guided through the openings of the adjustment device.

Claim 27 (currently amended): The variable background according to claim 11 ~~[[1]]~~, wherein the fastening devices are VELCRO ~~Velcro~~-fasteners, snap fasteners or zip fasteners.